From: **SUSAN B. HASKELL** 

Date: Wed, Apr 27, 2011 at  $\overline{2:30 \text{ PM}}$ 

Subject: PUBLIC COMMENT REDISTRICTING COMMISSION

To: votersfirstact@crc.ca.gov

## **April 27, 2011**

Dear Members of the Citizens Redistricting Commission:

I have been a resident of Pacific Palisades located along the Southern California coast for twenty-four years.

I am writing to recommend that the Commission create both Assembly and State Senate districts that include parts of the San Fernando Valley and the Westside coastal communities.

Specifically, the areas south of the 101 Freeway linked to the Westside and the Las Virgenes and Malibu "communities of interest".

These areas are linked through transportation corridors from the ocean to the Santa Monica Mountains and the residents of these locales have many common interests. Residents of these coastal communities and this part of the San Fernando Valley utilize these transit corridors for work, education, recreation, entertainment and medical care. Renowned institutions such as UCLA, Pepperdine, California State University, Pierce College, University of Judaism, the Getty Center, Santa Monica College and Santa Monica Museum of Art are examples of places that are frequented by both coastal, mountain and valley residents. The residents of communities such as Malibu, Las Virgenes, Calabasas, Topanga, Sherman Oaks, Encino, Studio City, Brentwood, Pacific Palisades, Santa Monica and Westwood are interconnected in daily life.

They share concerns about environmental impact on the coast, mountains and valley areas. The Santa Monica Conservancy parklands and trails, Will Rogers Park, Malibu and

Topanga State Park and coastal beaches are frequented by residents from all of these communities.

A cohesive district is one that has common interests in health care, transit, environmental protection and quality of life issues.

I strongly believe that these communities are an example of this cohesiveness and shared concerns.

I have had the opportunity to spend time in both the coastal communities and the San Fernando Valley as a student and resident. My husband worked in the San Fernando Valley for fifteen years.

I am acutely aware of the critical and symbiotic relationship between these areas and the commonality that binds them.

In addition, electing legislators with strong connections to the communities on the coast, the Santa Monica Mountains and parts of the San Fernando Valley make logical and practical sense.

I urge the Commission to consider my recommendation and the many factors that will contribute to both fair and successful representation in our Assembly and Senate Districts.

Sincerely,

Susan B. Haskell M.P.H.